Social Security Scheme on Pilot Basis

3777. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Social Security Scheme for unorganised workers has been launched in some Districts on pilot basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the scheme is proposed to be extended to more Districts;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Unorganised Sector Workers Social Security Scheme was launched in January 2004 in 50 districts of the country on pilot basis. The scheme envisaged the benefit of coverage under Universal Health Insurance Scheme, Personal Accident Insurance cover and Old Age Pension.

(c) to (e) The scheme was not found viable due to some inherent shortcomings like no statutory backing, voluntary in nature and non-availability of employers' contribution. Therefore, it is not being extended to other districts.

Inadequate medical facilities in ESI Hospitals

3778. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether employees State Insurance Corporation has recently decided to set up a Committee to review the functioning of medical care under ESI Scheme;

(b) if so, the terms of reference of the Committee, its composition and the time by when the Committee is likely to present its report;

(c) whether Government have received any complaints/suggestions regarding inadequate medical facilities available in the ESI hospitals in various States particularly in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?